



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office
ASSISTANT SECRETARY AND COMMISSIONER OF
PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231

Paper No. 5

HICKMAN STEPHENS & COLEMAN
P O BOX 52037
PALO ALTO, CA 94303-0746

Mailed

APR 17 2000

Director's Office
Group 2700

In re Application of: :
Kazuhiro Kozai :
Application No.: 09/387,195 :
Filed: August 31, 1999 :
For: LSI DESIGN SYSTEM THROUGH MODEL: MAKE SPECIAL
CREATION FOR FUNCTIONAL BLOCK :
AND LSI DESIGN METHOD THEREFOR :

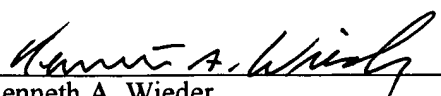
This is a decision on the petition under M.P.E.P. § 708.02 (VIII) to make the above-identified application special, filed December 13, 1999.

A grantable petition to make special in accordance with M.P.E.P. § 708.02, Item VIII, must be accompanied by (a) the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(I), (b) a statement that all claims are directed to a single invention or an offer to make an oral election without traverse should the Patent and Trademark Office hold that the claims are not directed to a single invention, (c) a statement that a pre-examination search has been made by the inventor, attorney, agent, professional searcher, etc., and a listing of the field of search by class and subclass, (d) one copy of each of the references deemed most closely related to the subject matter encompassed by the claims, and (e) a detailed description of the submitted references and discussions pointing out how the claimed subject matter is distinguishable over these references.

For the above stated reasons, the petition is **GRANTED**.

The application will retain its special status throughout its entire course of prosecution in the Patent and Trademark Office, including appeal, if any to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences, subject only to diligent prosecution by the applicant.

The petition fee of \$130.00 will be charged to the practitioner's deposit account as authorized. The application file will then be forwarded to the examiner for expedited prosecution.


Kenneth A. Wieder
Special Program Examiner
Technology Center 2700
Communications & Information Processing
(703) 305-4710